SARA II QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

January 1 – March 31, 2003

This report covers the second quarter of FY 2003, namely, the period January 1 – March 31, 2002. It follows the SARA FY 03 work plan for the period October 1, 2002 – September 30, 2003.

SARA II is a service project. As such, it is responsive to the Africa region's needs, and USAID and REDSO requests channeled through AFR/SD/HRD, so additional activities may gain priority from time to time as discussed in the Work Plan. In cases where a new activity becomes ongoing, it will be added to the quarterly report format.

Activities as found in the work plan are listed in bold.

SO 26: Adopt policies and strategies for increased sustainability, efficiency and equity of basic education services

- 1. Assist the AFR/SD/ED team
- ? Participate in SO 26 core team meetings
- ? Assist in the implement of the analytic agenda
- ? Assist team in R4 reviews/wrap-up;
- ? Assist team with dissemination & advocacy strategies

Expected Outputs:

- ? Weekly team meetings attended
- ? Transition activities carried out

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

This activity has been completed.

2. Support ERNWACA in developing the capacity to establish & sustain its leadership in educational research in West and Central Africa

Expected Outputs:

- ? Coordinator supported in institutional capacity building of regional coordination office and country chapters
- ? Funds raised by chapters
- ? Additional donors mobilized
- ? Scientific committee and steering committee meeting regularly

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

During this quarter, the efforts of the Regional Coordinator have begun to bear fruit. Her key initiative has been to secure core funding after the SARA subcontract ends (July 31, 2003). The Canadian International Development Resource Centre (IDRC), a long-time supporter until 2001, has again indicated that they will budget funding to support ERNWACA regional coordination office core expenses for an extended period. This support is expected to begin shortly, possibly as early as the next quarter. In addition, the Regional Coordinator has secured small grants for specific educational activities and strengthened her network of donor agency and country/regional educational institution contacts through meeting attendance and disseminating the ERNWACA newsletter. Her efforts will continue into the next quarter.

The dynamism of this Regional Coordinator has taken ERNWACA from a seemingly weak, barely relevant regional presence into a strong, visible one that has won the respect of prospective donors. She has dynamically used this visibility to develop grant requests and proposals to potential donors, doing her homework on what their funding priorities are. She follows up effectively and has brought about the re-entry of IDRC into educational research through the reputation that ERNWACA now has. This would not have happened without her. She will now need more time to take advantage of this institutional visibility to follow up on proposals and submit additional ones. SARA will not be able to provide additional funding, so SARA staff is working with the Regional Coordinator to advocate for ERNWACA in the United States, particularly within USAID. Suzanne Prysor-Jones, SARA Project Director, Renuka Bery, SARA Dissemination and Advocacy Manager, and Joseph Coblentz, SARA Operations Manager, have been instrumental in this effort in collaboration with Yolande Miller-Grandvaux, former SARA Basic Education Advisor and current educational specialist at the American Institutes for Research (AIR). These efforts will continue into the next quarter as well.

3. Disseminate NGO briefs.

Expected Outputs:

? NGO Briefs disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The NGO briefs in English and the bilingual folder were printed in January. A cover letter is in the approval process. The text of the French briefs was finalized and final layout and approval are in progress. The French briefs will be printed in the next quarter.

4. Assist AFR/SD/ED in providing backstopping to Mali USAID mission.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Education policy strategy updated and monitored
- ? TA provided

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

This activity is completed.

SO 19: Adoption of policies and strategies for increased sustainability, quality, efficiency and equity of health services

Technical Area: Household and Community Approaches to Child Health

1. Technical support for the design, implementation and use of facilitators briefing package for household and community IMCI (C-IMCI).

Expected Outputs:

? Briefing package developed and used in selected settings

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Based on the request of WHO/AFRO and in coordination with BASICS, SARA recruited a consultant, Ms. Gail Naimoli from Manoff, to continue work started under BASICS and finalize the consultant briefing package. Ms. Naimoli began her work in late February under a purchase order that AED/SARA signed with Manoff. The package will be field tested in Malawi in the next quarter.

2. Promote coordination between C-IMCI and RBM, especially with respect to including informal private practitioners in child survival programs.

Expected Outputs:

? C-IMCI and RBM adopting coordinated strategy for including informal practitioners in their programs

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA participated in the first "malaria fresh air" workshop, a series of workshops aimed at engaging NGOs in different malaria prevention and control interventions, in Zambia (September 2002). This quarter, Dr. Youssef Tawfik, SARA Senior Child Survival Advisor, coordinated actively with the CORE group in planning the following regional "malaria fresh air" workshop in Mali to cover NGOs in Francophone Africa. Dr. Sambe Duale, SARA Senior Research Manager and Infectious Diseases Advisor, also participated in the previous "malaria fresh air" workshop and is expected to participate in this upcoming one.

Dr. Tawfik plans to present approaches to effectively improving the quality of curative services offered by formal and informal practitioners, and discuss them with NGOs participating in the workshop. Drug sellers for childhood diseases, including malaria, will be included among the practitioners on which he will present.

Dr. Tawfik also discussed with Dr. Allan Schapira, Coordinator, Roll Back Malaria, WHO/Geneva, the SARA-led experience in Uganda to develop a national strategy for including formal and informal private practitioners in child survival programs including IMCI and Malaria Control Programs. Dr. Schapira expressed great interest in continuing dialogue with SARA and sharing experiences in the area of working with private practitioners.

3. Provide technical support to finalize and disseminate tools to improve access and use of essential drugs at community levels.

Expected Outputs:

? Tool to investigate access and use of essential drugs at the community level finalized and disseminated.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA continued the collaboration with the RPM+ Project in developing a manual to assess the availability and use of essential drugs at the community level. The manual is composed of two parts: a household survey to assess health careseeking behavior, including sources of care for childhood illness and available public and private sources of child survival drugs in the community; and a health provider survey to investigate the availability of child survival drugs and the quality of care given by public and private retail drug outlets. This quarter, the first complete draft manual was assembled based on experience of field testing in Senegal. The manual is to assist district level managers to identify problems with the availability and use of essential drugs at the community level and identify effective interventions for improvements.

4. Participate in Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG) meetings on C-IMCI and follow up on required action.

Expected Outputs:

? SARA participation in IAWG.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

During this quarter, SARA followed up with the recommendation of the IAWG regarding the development of the briefing package for C-IMCI. See item #1 above. Dr. Suzanne Prysor-Jones also participated in the IAWG conference call to plan a video conference next quarter to review the role of the IAWG in the current context.

5. Participate in WHO/AFRO, UNICEF and/or BASICS meetings to facilitate the development & implementation of strategies to expand C-IMCI.

Expected Outputs:

? Strategies to expand C-IMCI developed.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No C-IMCI meetings were organized during this reporting period.

6. Link with CORE, Global Communication Program, BASICS and WHO to promote the Africa Bureau's priorities for child health.

Expected Outputs:

? AFR's priorities in child health promoted.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA participated in many meetings with the CORE group, particularly to promote the involvement of NGOs in community IMCI activities and working with formal and informal private practitioners for child survival. In addition SARA had discussions with a number of individual NGOs, such as HOPE, World Vision, Africare and Concern, to promote collaboration with private practitioners for child survival.

Dr. Youssef Tawfik met with WHO/AFRO IMCI staff in Harare to present and discuss SARA's activities in child health, particularly in C-IMCI and working with private practitioners. WHO/AFRO expressed great appreciation for SARA's role in developing the briefing package for C-IMCI and for the progress made in the work with private practitioners.

7. Collaborate with partners to strengthen NGO networks to improve child health.

Expected Outputs:

? NGO networks strengthened in selected countries.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

8. Influence programs / partners to get specific health care -seeking behavior information on child health and use the data to advocate for appropriate interventions.

Expected Outputs:

? Specific health care-seeking information gathered and used.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The SARA Project collaborated with the RPM+ Project to include specific questions on health care seeking for childhood illness, including sources of care and sources of medicine, in a survey conducted in Senegal. Results of the study will be available during the next quarter. They should shed light on the specific sources of care and the proportion of sick children treated at public and private health service providers. RPM+ is planning to repeat this survey in a number of countries.

9. Assist AFR/SD with issues identification, portfolio management and evaluation.

Expected Outputs:

? TBD

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SO 19: Adoption of policies and strategies for increased sustainability, quality, efficiency

and equity of health services

Technical Area: Provider Performance

1. Print & disseminate paper on involving private practitioners in child survival in French.

Expected Outputs:

? Paper printed & disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The paper has been printed in French and SARA is in the process of disseminating it to many countries in Francophone Africa. In addition, the report will be distributed and discussed with participants at the regional NGO "malaria fresh air" workshop organized by CORE group in Mali, June 2003.

2. Disseminate Uganda's National Strategy for involving private practitioners in child survival programs.

Expected Outputs:

? National strategy printed and disseminated in the Africa region.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA has obtained approval of the Ministry of Health in Uganda to print and disseminate three key documents describing the development of the Ugandan national strategy to include private practitioners in child survival programs. These documents are *Utilizing the Potential of Formal and Informal Private Practitioners in Child Survival in Uganda: Situation Analysis and Outline for Developing a National Strategy; National Strategy for Utilizing the Potential of Private Practitioners in Child Survival;* and *Inventory of Private Health Practitioners in Luwero, Ntungamo and Rakai Districts.* SARA is collaborating with the MOH in Uganda to print and disseminate these documents as a model to guide the development of national strategies in other countries. During this quarter, SARA negotiated a subcontract with Intersoft Business Services, Ltd., of Kampala, Uganda, to do the printing. This will be completed during the next quarter.

3. Collaborate with partners (e.g., WHO/Geneva) in developing and testing a tool to guide the process of including private practitioners in child survival programs.

Expected Outputs:

? Tool developed and tested in selected countries

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Dr. Youssef Tawfik was invited to present at the annual "Technical Steering Committee" (TSC) for the WHO Child and Adolescents Health (CAH) Program. He presented the progress in developing a strategy to include formal and informal private practitioners in child survival programs. This included a summary of the national strategy in Uganda as well as the tools utilized to advocate for working with private practitioners and implement field interventions. As a result, the TSC recommended that WHO CAH continue to support this activity and continue to work with the SARA project in developing the toolkit.

SARA drafted an outline for a tool kit entitled "Including Formal and Informal Private Practitioners (PP) in National Child Survival Programs: Guidance and tools based on practical experiences". The tool kit includes advocacy tools, national situation analysis and strategy development tools and field intervention tools. The tool kit will describe the process of developing large-scale programs to improve the effectiveness of child health services offered by PP.

SARA presented and discussed the tool kit with WHO, Child and Adolescence Health Department and planned a joint development and production of the tool kit.

4. Document and disseminate paper on Uganda's experience in applying innovative training techniques (contracting, short course).

Expected outputs:

? Uganda's experience in contracting IMCI training and in conducting IMCI short courses documented and disseminated.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Dr. Youssef Tawfik discussed the first draft of the report and needed modifications/additions with consultant Mr. Ken Heise, who is in the process of completing the report. The report describes Uganda's innovative IMCI training approaches, namely, short, interrupted IMCI training, distant training, and contracting of training activities.

5. Disseminate and promote the use of the COPE tool for child health.

Expected Outputs:

? COPE tool disseminated.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

6. Provide technical input to USAID and WHO for scaling up IMCI strategy.

Expected Outputs:

- ? SARA participates in regional meetings and evaluation events.
- ? IMCI strategy scaled up in the Africa region.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Oscar Picazo traveled to Geneva in January 2003 to participate in the "exchange of findings" between the IMCI Multi-Country Evaluation Team and the Analytic Review (AR) Team. However, his scheduled trip to Brighton to attend the report drafting exercise of the AR Team was cancelled due to the war in Iraq, as was his trip to London to participate in the planning of the Ottawa Millennium Development Goals Meeting of heads of agencies.

In addition, Mr. Picazo submitted a draft report on the financing and economic aspects of IMCI for inclusion into the final draft of the Analytic Review. The AR Team has suggested that Mr. Picazo's report be included as an annex to the AR Report.

7. Provide technical support to WHO/AFRO in implementing formative research on HH/C practices for newborn and dissemination of results.

Expected Outputs:

? Formative research on newborn health conducted and disseminated.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

8. Assist AFR/SD with issues identification, portfolio management and evaluation.

Expected Outputs:

? Specific child survival issues of importance to AFR/SD identified.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

See item #9 in the previous section above.

SO 19: Adoption of policies and strategies for increased sustainability, quality, efficiency

and equity of health services.

Technical Area: Malaria RP

1. Participation at the 3rd MIM African Conference in Arusha, Tanzania.

Expected Outputs:

- ? SARA and partners represented at the meeting.
- ? Report prepared and disseminated.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

This activity is completed.

2. Support for initiatives on the prevention of malaria in pregnancy in Africa.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Working group meetings held.
- ? Review of MIP policies and guidelines in ECSA conducted.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The SARA dissemination team is working to produce and disseminate an updated Malaria in Pregnancy (MIP) brochure. The planned February MIP Working Group was cancelled because of bad weather. A MIP working group meeting is planned for May 7, 2003.

Meanwhile, the ECSAHCS' (the ECSA Health Community Secretariat, formerly CRHCS) consultant conducted a desk top review of policy adoption, dissemination and advocacy in support of the prevention and control of MIP (in collaboration with the RCQHC, MNH Project and the MIP network. She presented the findings at a MIP in Southern Africa meeting organized by the RCQHC and held in Lusaka, at the PREMA-EU meeting in Amsterdam, and at the Joint Meeting of the HAPEC and the F& RHPSC in Mauritius.

The ECSAHCS is now awaiting REDSO-promised funds to continue the review process, as the activity will now include selected in-country visits, repackaging and dissemination of the findings. Mali and Nigeria have been added to the assessment and the Malaria Consortium will fund this part of the review. The ECSAHCS is drafting a SOW for the Malaria Consortium.

3. Technical support for malaria activities of selected African institutions & networks (e.g., CRHCS, WAHO, WHO/AFRO, MRTC, RCQHC, ECSACON).

Expected Outputs:

- ? TA provided by SARA staff & consultant.
- ? Staff of partner institutions participate in key meetings and electronic exchanges organized.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Dr. Sambe Duale had two communications with Prof. Ogobara of MRTC to discuss the status of AFR/SD-funded activities and plan for the dissemination of findings. It is proposed that MTRC take advantage of the planned CORE subregional workshop to be held later this year in Bamako to present findings from AFR/SD-supported activities.

4. Co-sponsorship of a CORE Regional Workshop for PVOs on Malaria Prevention and Control in West Africa.

Expected Outputs:

- ? TA provided by SARA staff & consultants.
- ? Workshop organized and delivered.
- ? Report prepared & disseminated.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Dr. Sambe Duale participated in one conference call meeting of the CORE Malaria Working Group this quarter. The planning of the regional workshop was among the topics discussed. The workshop will still be held June 23-27, 2003, in Bamako, Mali.

5. Support for a WAHO consultative meeting to identify strategic approaches to the promotion of ITNs for malaria prevention and control in West Africa.

Expected Outputs:

- ? TA provided by SARA staff and consultants.
- ? Workshop organized and delivered.
- ? Report and advocacy materials prepared & disseminated.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SO 19: Adoption of policies and strategies for increased sustainability, quality, efficiency and equity of health services.

Technical Area: Tuberculosis

1. Data analysis and report on findings of the Women and TB study in Tanzania.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Data collected & analyzed, report prepared.
- ? National and regional dissemination workshop organized.
- ? Development, production and dissemination of briefs and advocacy materials.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

A revised draft of the full study report and a policy document based on the study findings were circulated to selected colleagues at USAID, WHO, and ECSAHCS for review. A SARA-funded meeting of Tanzanian experts was held in Dar es Salaam in March 2003 to discuss the research findings and their program and policy implications. The research team is in the process of revising the report based on comments from the expert meeting. It is hoped that the report will be finalized, produced and disseminated next quarter. WHO/AFRO and the ECSAHCS have expressed interest in collaborating on follow-up activities, including a planned dissemination workshop for stakeholders in Tanzania. In addition, the ECSAHCS submitted a notification letter to seek approval from USAID/REDSO to use resources allocated for this activity to ensure that the findings and suggested improvements for women's access to TB diagnosis and treatment services are disseminated in the region. The ECSAHCS will continue follow-up on the implementation letters from USAID/REDSO. It has begun planning a dissemination strategy.

2. Organize information sharing on the implementation on TB control programs in African settings.

Expected Outputs:

? Information-sharing activities planned, organized and implemented.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter. Consultation with SWAA officers for a TB session was suspended because of the cancellation of annual conference.

3. Support for the documentation and dissemination of findings on innovative TB-HIV linked programs.

Expected Outputs:

? Literature review, key informant interviews and site visits conducted.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

4. Sub-regional workshop in Dar es Salaam for the review of findings from the TB & gender study in Tanzania.

Expected Outputs:

? Workshop held & report prepared, disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

See #1 above.

SO 19: Adoption of policies and strategies for increased sustainability, quality, efficiency and equity of health services.

Technical Area: Infectious Diseases

1. Support for the documentation and dissemination of findings on the implementation of IDSR in Africa.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Technical assistance from SARA staff & consultant provided.
- ? Report and advocacy briefs produced and disseminated.
- ? SARA participation in IDSR Task Force.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Antonia Wolff, SARA Dissemination Specialist, and Dr. Sambe Duale participated in a conference call of IDSR partners and in the review of the draft IDSR country reports of the IDSR documentation conducted in December 2002. A planned March 2003 Global consultation on IDSR in Geneva was cancelled because of the SARS epidemic and the imminence of war with Iraq. Ms. Wolff and Dr. Duale will be working with Mary Harvey of AFR/SD and other partners to plan the WHO/AFRO IDSR Task Force to be held later this year in Bamako, Mali.

2. Technical support to AFR/SD/HRD on Epidemic Preparedness & Response, & Transition Initiatives.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Review meetings held
- ? TA provided to update this area

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

3. Support to WHO/AFRO in integrated surveillance activities.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Support provided to WHO/AFRO and IDSR documentation team to develop dissemination plan and relevant advocacy materials.
- ? Other support provided as needed.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

See item #1 above.

SO 19: Adoption of policies and strategies for increased sustainability, quality, efficiency

and equity of health services

Technical Area: Nutrition

1. Assist AFR/SD/HRD SO 19 team in <u>managing</u> the Nutrition Technical Area (including MTCT/nutrition, HIV/AIDS issues).

Expected Outputs:

- ? Core team meetings held
- ? SO 19 portfolio reviews conducted
- ? Expert advice provided

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA met this quarter with the LINKAGES Project to review their PMTCT activities, including results from Zambia and Malawi, and progress developing the Regional PMTCT Center of Excellence. No problems encountered.

SARA assisted AFR/SD with the organization of a workshop session on Nutrition and Food Security for the July 2003 Sullivan Summit to be held in Abuja. Although an exciting panel of speakers has been identified for the Summit session, the funding for participants has not yet been guaranteed and must be confirmed as soon as possible.

2. Provide technical support to AFR Core Groups, G-PHN, & CA partners on nutrition issues in Africa.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Meetings attended.
- ? Expert advice/input provided.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The SARA nutrition team assisted AFR/SD with the preparation of an analysis of nutrition in the region as part of their overall Child Survival review. A series of slides depicting nutritional status and coverage of essential nutrition interventions was prepared.

SARA also met with AFR/SD to identify priority nutrition issues for 2003. AFR/SD would like better documentation of nutrition trends in sub-Saharan Africa. To follow up on this request, Dorcas Lwanga, SARA Nutritionist, met with Altrena Mukuria of DHS+/MACRO International to discuss the latest data and possible trends. DHS+ is in the process of preparing a comparative report on the nutrition situation, which will be available next quarter.

Ms. Lwanga continued to provide technical assistance to FANTA's HIV/AIDS nutritionist to update their Nutrition Care and Support Guidelines. Additional information to finalize the chapter on guidelines for the nutrition care of children infected with HIV is forthcoming. At present, further revisions have been held until after a WHO meeting within the next quarter that will focus, among other things, on recommendations for nutrition care and support of HIV infected children. This information will be incorporated into the guidelines.

3. Evaluate the impact of AFR/SD nutrition investments & disseminate results

- ? **PROFILES** evaluation
- ? Evaluation of West Africa Nutrition Focal Point Network.

Expected Outputs:

- ? PROFILES evaluation report completed and disseminated.
- ? Conferences/workshops attended where results are presented & discussed.
- ? Focal Points evaluation conducted, report completed and disseminated in West Africa sub-region.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The final report of the PROFILES evaluation was completed this quarter. A short brief on the evaluation for dissemination will be developed. A consultant will be hired to complete the brief as well as identify and recommend electronic channels for dissemination. Dorcas Lwanga will work with the consultant as required.

Kinday Samba, SARA Nutrition Regional Advisor for West Africa, and the BASICS Nutrition Advisor, Dr Ismael Thiam, have received all the interviews conducted relevant to the Focal Points evaluation. Analysis of the responses has been conducted and an outline for the report prepared. Work is now in progress on the preparation of a first draft of the report which was to have been submitted to WAHO by March 24, 2003. This was not possible as all the notes to the qualitative interviews had not been received by then. The first draft report will now be submitted by June 15, 2003.

4. Strengthen African partners' capacity for:

- ? Incorporation of AFR-supported nutrition tools/materials in NGO & pre-service settings in ECSA.
- ? TA to ECSA and WA sub-regions on inclusion of nutrition into PRSP programming.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Regional workshop conducted in conjunction with other related meetings on use of nutrition tools, nutrition advocacy, dissemination of promising practices.
- ? Number of institutions incorporating AFR tools into pre-service, in-service training increased.
- ? Follow-up assistance in West Africa provided for implementation of new approaches (IRSP).
- ? Regional training workshop conducted on nutrition and PRSP in ECSA sub-region.
- ? Follow-up of WA PRSP workshop.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Planning for the regional training workshop on nutrition and PRSP in the ECSA region continued in this quarter. Dorcas Lwanga provided technical assistance to Ms. Lora Iannotti (LINKAGES/GHAI) to finalize the concept paper for this activity. The concept paper was submitted to REDSO for review and support of the activity. This is a collaborative activity with LINKAGES/GHAI, with Ms. Lwanga providing technical assistance to the activity. In addition, Ms. Iannotti and Ms. Lwanga have been in constant communication via email and telephone with the ECSAHCS Nutrition Coordinator, Ms. Boitshepo Giyose, with regards to planning and organizing this workshop. The activity will begin once REDSO approves its funding.

Ms. Kinday Samba met with counterparts from the BASICS WARO office in February 2003 to prepare a work program for the training of trainers workshops to facilitate the incorporation of AFR/SD nutrition tools into preservice institutions in West and Central Africa. A total of four TOT workshops will be held in Dakar, Senegal (April 22-26), Yaoundé, Cameroon (May 5-9), Niamey, Niger and Conakry, Guinea (May 19-23). Ms. Samba will be responsible for facilitating the workshops in Dakar, Yaoundé and Niamey.

5. Dissemination of promising practices in Africa through regional networks:

- ? WAHO focal points
- ? CRHCS nutrition network
- ? Other nutrition and HIV networks.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Support for one regional meeting each for WAHO nutrition focal points, CRHCS nutrition focal points network.
- ? Promising practices documented by CRHCS, WAHO and disseminated through existing networks.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Preparations for the International planning committee for the WAHO focal points meeting were completed and the meeting is planned to take place early next quarter in Conakry, Guinea. This year's international planning meeting has been delayed in starting its preparations secondary to communication problems between the hosts and WAHO. WAHO did eventually manage to establish communication with the nutrition focal team in Conakry who will be hosting the focal point meeting this year. It is hoped that there will be no further delays in the planning and organization of the focal point meeting. A report of the international planning meeting will be provided in the next quarter with recommendations and a plan of action for the meeting.

SO 19: Adoption of Policies and Strategies for Increased sustainability, Quality, Efficiency, and Equity of Health Services

Technical Area: Maternal Health/Essential Obstetrical Care (EOC)

1. Develop and disseminate a program brief that refocuses the role of traditional birth attendants as part of a facility/community team to improve maternal health.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Program brief.
- ? Review and discussion by WHO RH focal points.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

2. Provide continued strategic guidance and support on malaria in pregnancy.

Expected Outputs:

? Update of malaria in pregnancy briefing packet, development of additional fact sheets, etc.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

See SO 19, Malaria, Item #2 above.

The brochure has been reviewed by MIP task force members and SARA continues to update the brochure for a second edition publication. SARA continues to participate in the USAID-led informal MIP working group (along with MSH, JHPIEGO, WHO). The working group will now be part of the RBM consortium and will be known as the RBM MIP working group.

3. Work with WHO/AFRO and African Institutions to expand REDUCE/ALIVE initiative in Africa.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Monitoring tool.
- ? Monitoring reports.
- ? Increased advocacy for maternal health.
- ? Increased monitoring of advocacy impact.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The monitoring tool was developed by the ECSAHCS and SARA with feedback from WHO/AFRO. The ECSAHCS then field-tested it in Tanzania and piloted its application in Uganda. ECSAHCS presented the findings from implementation in Uganda at the Joint HAPAC and RH Program Managers/Experts Committee Meeting for the ECSA region in March in Mauritius. The report of the monitoring in Uganda has been submitted. The activity generated interest at the Ministry of Health in Uganda to revitalize maternal health advocacy at the district and sub-district levels.

SO 19: Adoption of Policies and Strategies for Increased sustainability, Quality, Efficiency, and Equity of Health Services

Technical Area: Health Care Finance & Reform

General – Cross-Cutting

1. Assist AFR/SD team as needed in managing the SO and IRs pertaining to health financing & sustainability of USAID programs.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Key information and updates provided to AFR/SD, field missions and cooperating agencies.
- ? Peer reviews provided to consultant reports.
- ? Dissemination meetings organized and attended.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Oscar Picazo, SARA Health Finance and Reform Advisor, worked with MSH and SARA staff to produce scopes of work for possible use of AFR/SD resources in the areas of antiretroviral drugs and improved disbursement of Global Fund and other resources.

2. Provide technical support to AFR/SD, cooperating agencies, African governments and other donors on National Health Accounts.

Expected Outputs:

- ? West African NHA Network launched.
- ? NHA funding identified.
- ? NHA work plans reviewed.
- ? NHA draft reports reviewed.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Oscar Picazo assisted the PHR+ Project, WHO/AFRO, and other stakeholders in the launching of the Francophone NHA network in January 2003. He also provided assistance to the World Bank (Tim Johnson) by reviewing government tender materials for the funding of the Burkina Faso NHA technical assistance. In addition, he conducted a teleconference with SIDA (Anders Anell) for the possibility of the Swedish Government providing a direct Trust Fund to the World Bank for NHA work, instead of the current practice of using project funds, which is onerous and time consuming. Finally, Mr. Picazo exchanged ideas through e-mail with CRHCS and WHO/AFRO for the potential use of additional NHA funds from DfID.

3. Draft note on the role of USAID in sector-wide approaches (SWAp) & Health Sector Reform (HSR).

Expected Outputs:

- ? Paper finalized, presented, & reviewed.
- ? Follow-on work determined.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

4. Provide technical support to AFR/SD, other donors & cooperating agencies on how African countries and institutions can improve disbursement of donor funds, including GF-ATM.

Expected Outputs:

? TBD

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

5. Finalize and disseminate the issues paper on human resource crisis in health in Africa.

Expected Outputs:

? Paper finalized and disseminated.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Paper finalized, printed, and disseminated. This activity is, therefore, completed.

6. Participate in USAID's and other donors' human resource development working groups.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Issues identified for AFR/SD.
- ? Consultative meeting with cooperating agencies held and linkages with them and with other donors formulated.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Oscar Picazo and Dr. Stephen Kinoti, SARA HIV/AIDS Advisor, participated in regular World Bank-organized HRD team meetings, including interagency HR meetings, to exchange information on ongoing donor initiatives on HR. They also made presentations at the World Bank series on HR on the impact of HIV/AIDS on the health and education sectors in February 2003.

Mr. Picazo was scheduled to attend in March 2003 the Africa technical working group meeting on HR organized by the Rockefeller Foundation, but the trip was cancelled due to the Iraq War.

Dr. Kinoti continued contributing to the ongoing collaboration between WHO/AFRO, SARA and the ECSA health community to assess the impacts of HIV/AIDS on the health work force in Kenya and Malawi. He also opened up discussions on human resource development with DfID, London.

7. Assist in defining the health financing, health economics, human resources and related activities that can be supported by SARA through CESAG, CRHCS and others TBD.

Expected Outputs:

? TBD in consultation with African institutions and AFR/SD.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

8. Supervise the conduct of 2-3 country case assessments of the HR situation in Africa's health sector to inform global / regional discussions and recommendations on the issue: Kenya, others TBD.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Country HR analytical and advocacy teams organized.
- ? Draft report completed.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Through the SARA subcontract with the ECSAHCS, the Kenya and Malawi teams are now undertaking country case assessments of the impact of HIV/AIDS on human resources in health. This quarter, the two countries approved the proposals and put in place financial management procedures for the funds relating to these assessments.

Health Sector Reform & Health Care Financing Support to SO 19

1. Participate in inter-agency working group on the private sector and child health.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Hugh Water's paper on Working with the Private Sector on Child Health disseminated.
- ? "Viewpoint" advocacy article on the role of the private sector in child health published.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Hugh Waters' paper has been finalized, printed and disseminated by both the World Bank (which funded the printing) and SARA. The paper is now out of print, and a second print-run is being funded by the Bank.

An abridged version of the paper has been accepted by the *Journal of Health Policy and Planning* for publication (c/o Hugh Waters, et al.).

2. Participate as health economist in the global IMCI Analytic Review.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Draft of country health financing profiles.
- ? Draft of section on health financing in the synthesis report.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

See Provider Performance, #6 above.

3. Draft concept notes / issues papers on the use of (a) franchising and (b) vouchers for child health services.

Expected Outputs:

? Paper completed, reviewed, finalized and disseminated.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Outline for vouchers paper completed.

SO 19: Adoption of Policies and Strategies for Increased sustainability, Quality, Efficiency, and Equity of Health Services

Technical Area: Expanded Program of Immunization (EPI)

1. Assist AFR/SD SO 19 EPI team in managing the EPI agenda, especially human resources/capacity development.

Expected Outputs:

? Assistance provided as needed.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

2. Dissemination and advocacy activities for EPI using African institutions (e.g., CRHCS or others).

Expected Outputs:

? Publications produced & disseminated.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SO 20: Policies and strategies for increased sustainability and quality of reproductive health services adopted

General - Related to overall SO

1. Assist AFR/SD/HRD SO 20 team with managing the RH results packages.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Core team meetings.
- ? Results packages completed & periodically updated.
- ? Annual report completed annually.
- ? Strategic support & guidance.
- ? PMP updated.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The core team met regularly until the beginning of March, when the AFR/SD Senior Technical Advisor for SO 20 transferred to the Global Bureau at USAID. Members continue to meet to confer on scopes of work submitted. The results package for FY 02 was updated, completed and submitted to Congress.

2. Assist AFR/SD with tracking and monitoring performance & results.

Expected Outputs:

- ? SD matrix inventorying activities.
- ? Update meetings with SD CAs.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA hosted a meeting on February 26, 2003, with all the AFR/SD SO 20 CAs.

3. Guidance to CA partners on dissemination and advocacy as related to documentation of projects.

Expected Outputs:

? Guidance provided as needed.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Antonia Wolff will support Advance Africa in the development, design and dissemination of a RH strategic mapping guide (advocacy tool designed to generate resources and high-level support for FP, strengthen ongoing country-level FP programs, integration with HIV/AIDS activities in country programs, coordination of ongoing decentralized FP/RH activities in country programs). SARA has proposed to help with the layout, dissemination strategy, final editing and printing of the guide. AFR/SD's requirement is that the final product be clearly positioned and labeled a FP/RH program development tool. Advance Africa expects to present this product at the Global Health Council conference in May. It also plans to test the guide in Angola.

Ms. Wolff also provided guidance on two Reproductive Health documents on Youth Networks in Kenya by PATH.

Finally, the SARA project compiled, packaged and shipped 500 custom-made Reproductive Health briefing packets on adolescent health for World Bank's Videoconference (VC) on adolescent health and development in Africa. The packet was sent to fifteen Francophone African countries, all of whom are participating in the videoconference.

4. Assist SD and CAs in packaging and disseminating FP and RH findings.

Expected Outputs:

? TBD.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA produced a CD-ROM of all AFR/SD SO 20-supported activities since 1996, including findings, tools, manuals, briefs, etc. The CD-ROM was initially distributed to over 200 recipients, including those who had contributed to the CD, missions, and partnering CAs and African institutions. It has been made available at a few key USAID events, and will continue to be distributed at any identified dissemination opportunities.

5. Support to WAHO in conducting workshop and in the compilation of regional advocacy action plans for FP and MH.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Compilation of West African country action plans (ECOWAS).
- ? Provide TA to MH March 2003 workshop.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA provided technical and financial assistance for WAHO to co-host with the MNH Project a maternal and neonatal health workshop in Burkina Faso in March 2003. Best practices were presented and WAHO worked with country teams to prioritize elements of country action plans. SARA sponsored CEFOREP to present the REDUCE model at the workshop, which elicited much interest from representatives of Benin, Burkina Faso, Guinea-Conakry and Mali.

6. Program monitoring visits to West and East-Southern Africa.

Expected Outputs:

? Trip reports.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Visit to CERPOD and CAREF in January and March 2003. See next subsection, item #3.

Addressing the reproductive health (RH) needs of underserved populations (Male Involvement &ARH)

1. Provide technical assistance on dissemination of findings of a multi-country study on *male involvement in RH*. Identify opportunities for dissemination of brief.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Brief to be included in RH briefing packet (French and English)
- ? Dissemination to RH e-mailing list.
- ? Translate summary brief in French.
- ? Put country report and summary brief onto a CD-ROM; make available to RESAR, EngenderHealth.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

This quarter, the RH Core group discussed and shared the above ideas with Justine Tantchou, Acting President of RESAR. We have yet to hear back from her regarding these dissemination ideas. However, SARA will continue to provide TA to help identify opportunities for dissemination. RESAR produced a summary which was published in one of the RESAR's newsletters. SARA plans to translate this summary, and then will draw upon it to produce a brief for the briefing packet. Plans to put the country reports and summary brief onto a CD-ROM will take place in the next quarter.

2. Provide guidance to YouthNet in development & implementation of SOW for Africa.

Expected Outputs:

? SOW developed & activity started.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

PRB's Rhonda Smith worked with Sharifah Tahir of YouthNet in developing its proposed scope of work for USAID AFR/SD funding.

3. Support CERPOD and / or other African institutions to update information on adolescent RH in the region by conducting an in-depth analysis of new DHS data from the region.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Up-to-date information on ARH in at least four CERPOD member countries where new DHS and other data is involved.
- ? Wall chart or brochure presenting this new information in an accessible way.
- ? Development of dissemination strategy.
- ? Data turned into a PowerPoint presentation to be used at meetings.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Provided TA to CERPOD and CAREF on visit in March 2003 to outline memorandum of understanding and scopes of work to analyze ASRH trends from DHS conducted in the Sahel countries and to review national ADH policies and programs since 1995. Since CERPOD lost much of its staff, this activity has stalled. SARA proposed that CERPOD work in partnership with the new CAREF to carry out the activity. Coordination for this partnership is coming together slowly - CERPOD is going through an institutional evaluation by its partners and CAREF is newly established.

New strategies for incorporating STI/HIV/AIDS into other existing services adopted

1. Provide support for addressing the integration of FP and HIV/AIDS programs.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Provide strategic guidance on issues papers / case studies to Policy II.
- ? Provide review to fact sheets (Policy II will do).

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

New strategies for empowering women developed

1. Explore possible support to FGC initiatives.

Expected Outputs:

? TBD depending on activities defined.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA is a member of the inter-agency working group on FGC at USAID, which met in April. Terms of reference for the group were finalized. SARA confers with the USAID FGC advisor on FGC activity issues.

2. PAC analysis report and dissemination workshop.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Publication of report.
- ? DC-based dissemination meeting on report to develop dissemination strategy.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Three authors have been asked to revise their chapters. Once these are re-submitted, the draft report will be ready for editing and publishing.

Reproductive health policies / strategies promotion: Strategies to strengthen African regional capacity to plan, manage and implement reproductive health programs developed and promoted

1. Support African institution to design & conduct a course on qualitative research techniques targeted to RH professionals in Francophone Africa.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Curriculum, marketing plan for recruiting participants.
- ? Training reports, including training evaluation.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

2. Support selected African Institutions in West Africa to link them with other agencies and institutions. Identify priority activities and comparative advantages of different institutions.

Expected Outputs:

? WAHO consultative meeting.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activities in this regard vis-à-vis WAHO.

SARA organized a consultative meeting with CEFOREP, JHPIEGO, Policy Project, Prime Project, and WHO during the SAGO conference in January 2003 to discuss CEFOREP's role in the follow-up of the Francophone PAC initiative. CEFOREP has drafted a SOW, but requires another consultative meeting with the CAs to determine CA technical and financial support for CEFOREP's implementation of the activity. SARA has linked CERPOD with CAREF to carry out the updating of ASRH in its CILSS member states (see previous item).

3. Provide technical assistance to CRHCS in development of an RH strategy.

Expected Outputs:

? Strategy that outlines the key priority RH areas of focus by CRHCS.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA participated in ECSAHCS' working group sessions during its Family and Reproductive Health Program Steering Committee meeting in March 2003 to identify core strategies and functions of ECSAHCS (policy development, coordination and partnerships, capacity building, advocacy, documentation, and dissemination and research, monitoring and evaluation) with regard to its priority RH program areas---ASRH and rights, safe motherhood, FP, Child Survival, Reproductive System Cancers and cross-cutting issues (gender, male involvement, quality of care, RH needs of underserved group, PMTCT, STIs).

The ECSAHCS now will determine how to prioritize its functions in the different program areas for the duration of its RH strategy (through 2007).

4. Technical support to CRHCS in developing materials for repositioning FP in RH programs to improve RH outcomes.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Electronic and print FP repositioning advocacy presentation materials specific to ECSA (link with other partners).
- ? Documentation.
- ? Regional and national advocacy action plans.
- ? Enhanced commitment to mobilize resources to integrate FP in RH.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA worked with the ECSAHCS to revise the repositioning FP in RH program and adapt it for the ECSA region. It was presented at the F&RH program steering committee meeting in March 2003. PHNI will collaborate with CRHCS and SARA to revise the presentation further.

5. Compile tools developed by SARA and SFPS on FP/RH.

Expected Outputs:

? Brochure in English and French, searchable CD-ROM and information posted to AFR/SD and SFPS websites.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

This activity will no longer take place.

6. Support WARP in finalizing donor mapping activity.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Summary and analysis of country donor mapping reports.
- ? Produce CD-ROM containing all country reports and summary report.
- ? Assist WARP in dissemination of CD-ROM.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

This activity is completed.

7. Support regional African institutions / CAs in the policy monitoring for PAC (CEFOREP, if appropriate).

Expected Outputs:

- Property of policy monitoring strategy (report card for progress).
- ? Policy monitoring reports.
- ? Report on progress made in implementing policy resolutions in member states.
- ? CEFOREP's participation at SAGO.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA is working with CEFOREP to finalize the scope of work. Intrah/Prime has also been providing TA in this regard.

8. Provide agenda setting and technical advice to WHO Regional RH task force.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Agenda set with AFR/SD priorities included.
- ? Task force recommendations.
- ? Follow-up.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The task force issued 13 recommendations at its meeting in October 2002.

SARA is providing assistance with recommendation #1, collaboration with WHO/AFRO to "develop and implement advocacy and communication strategies to promote reduction of maternal mortality and attention to newborn health"----SARA has linked the ECSAHCS with WHO/AFRO to develop a tool to monitor maternal health advocacy activities, including the use of REDUCE in SSA countries.

Innovative advocacy strategies to increase support of expanded reproductive health programs developed and promoted

1. Extensive assessment of outcomes and results of West African media activities.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Final analysis report.
- ? Summary briefing booklet on the story of Pop'mediafrique (process, lessons learned and results).

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The report is in draft and is being finalized.

2. Conduct 2nd East and South Africa Women's journalist network seminar with a focus on repositioning FP in RH.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Multiple articles.
- ? Broadcast programs featuring FP and related RH issues.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Members of the Eastern and Southern Africa Women's Media Network (ESAWomen) gathered in Nairobi for their second seminar, January 28-31, 2003. Nine journalists from Kenya, Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia attended the sessions, which focused on the effects of gender-based violence on family planning and the spread of HIV/AIDS. Medical experts, representatives from NGOs working in the region, a judicial official, and veteran science writers made presentations to the journalists. The ESAWomen also visited a hospital for women and a youth center with a girls' soccer program.

Also during the seminar, three of the journalists took time out to participate in a popular, two-hour radio call-in program on reproductive health issues. The program's sponsor, the Population Council, invited the journalists and a local medical expert to be on the show, and changed that week's topic to gender-based violence and HIV/AIDS, in keeping with the seminar theme. The reporters from Malawi, Tanzania, and Uganda spoke about the situation in their countries and current efforts to raise awareness of gender violence and HIV/AIDS. The PRB/SARA team is in the process of collecting articles and broadcast products that resulted from the seminar.

3. Continue to contribute to the Media Advocacy program in Senegal.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Enhanced policy environment via the media for local partner NGO for HIV/AIDS advocacy.
- ? Capacity building with local partner NGOs.
- ? Media articles / broadcast programs.
- ? Quarterly newsletter for journalists.
- ? Maintenance of THIAT listsery group comprised of journalists, donors and health specialists.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Over the last quarter, the Senegal journalist network produced the fifth issue of the bulletin "Sida: Media Flash," which features tips on responsible reporting practices and feature articles on RH topics from throughout the region. The local ACI team is also maintaining the innovative THIAT listsery group and continues to have an active dialogue with journalists, donors, and health specialists in West Africa.

4. Explore activities to promote and advocate for the repositioning of FP in RH programs.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Develop and distribute info packets and advocacy tools.
- ? Develop RH CD-ROM and disseminate.
- ? Inclusion in CRHCS, WHO / AFRO and WAHO RH strategies.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The CD-ROM was developed and disseminated. FP is a major component of the ECSAHCS' RH strategy. WAHO will feature it as a key component of its maternal & neonatal health regional strategy.

5. Conduct regional seminar for Pop'mediafrique and Fem'mediafrique network members in West Africa on a topic TBD.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Seminar report.
- ? Follow-up monitoring of articles / broadcasts related to topic TBD.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

PRB/SARA is working with local counterparts to identify a regional RH conference or topic for a regional seminar to be held in late summer of this year.

Strategies for improved coordination among stakeholders and / or partners for RH programs developed and promoted

1. Provide technical support as needed to AFR/SD and African institutions on aspects related to costing, financing, cost-effectiveness and sustainability of FP, reproductive health and maternal health / s afe motherhood programs.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Key information and updates provided to AFR/SD, field missions and cooperating sponsors.
- ? Peer reviews provided to consultant reports.
- ? Dissemination meetings attended.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Oscar Picazo conducted an inventory of programs providing antiretroviral drugs in Africa, and shared these with AFR/SD and CAs for information. He also assisted the Linkages Project in reviewing a cost-effectiveness analysis for breastfeeding in Madagascar. Finally, he provided comments to Unicef's initial draft of a cost-effectiveness analysis of safe motherhood programs (M. Danguilan).

2. Support WHO / AFRO on upgrading capacity of African governments for mobilizing RH resources.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Strategy developed.
- ? Partnerships formed.
- ? Activities pursued by WHO / AFRO with SARA input.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA linked WHO/AFRO FRH with the World Bank Institute (WBI). At WBI's next course for Anglophone African country program managers, WHO/AFRO will present the maternal health advocacy model REDUCE and the paper on repositioning family planning in the age of HIV/AIDS in SSA.WHO/AFRO has elected to appoint maternal health "ambassadors" to champion the value of women, to encourage governments to think about reproductive and maternal health as a package of maternal health, emergency obstetric care, family planning, prevention of mother to child HIV transmission, malaria in pregnancy, and reflect this package their budgets.

3. Support to Advance Africa to produce and disseminate a strategic mapping manual.

Expected Outputs:

? Manual developed and disseminated.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

See "General – Related to overall SO," section, item #3.

SO 21: Adoption of Cost-effective Strategies to Prevent and Mitigate the Impact of HIV/AIDS

Enhanced coordination of partners to support HIV/AIDS programs in Africa

1. Assist AFR/SD/HRD Team, as needed, in managing the HIV/AIDS Results package.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Core team meetings held.
- ? SO 21 portfolio reviews organized.
- ? Performance monitoring plan drafted.
- ? Peer reviews organized & expert advice provided.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Dr. Ellen Piwoz, SARA Nutrition Advisor, assisted AFR/SD this quarter by performing a technical review of mission applications for funding through the President's Mother-Child HIV Initiative. This included reviews of applications from Kenya, Uganda, Botswana, Namibia, Mozambique, Nigeria, Zambia, and Tanzania. No problems were encountered.

In addition, one SO 21 core team meeting was held in which a number of activities were presented to SARA for implementation. These were:

- a) Review response to the Southern Africa food crisis (surveillance and vulnerability assessment tool(s).
- b) Analyze the nutrition situation of children infected and affected by HIV/AIDS in SSA, especially at community, family and individual levels.
- c) Analyze the current political/economic structures and HIV/AIDS in.
- d) Country incidence and prevalence analysis.
- e) Health Sector and Manpower Analysis, including (1) updating the paper, "Impact of HIV/AIDS on the Health Sector in Sub-Sahara Africa: the Issue of Human Resources"; (2) "White Paper" that sets out the main impacts of HIV/AIDS on the health sector and recommendations and action points; (3) based on 1) and 2), a set of talking points on the main technical and policy areas; and (4) discussion on HCD in health with Estelle in the Global Bureau.
- f) Models of care and treatment in Africa.
- g) Care and Support of people living with HIV/AIDS (PWA).

Additionally, Dr. Kinoti and Mr. McDermott worked closely with Naisiadet Mason of SWAA in the development of a scope of work for the activities proposed by SWAA for \$75,000. Finally, Dr. Kinoti provided TA in the finalization of the NAP+ institutional strengthening sub-contract (\$70,000) at the request of Ron MacInnis of USAID Global, formerly AFR/SD. Contractual arrangements will be finalized with AED in the next quarter.

During this period, discussions on strengthening antiretroviral therapy (ART) in Africa were opened between AFR/SD and SARA. Oscar Picazo and Dr. Kinoti got involved in these discussions with Hope Sukin of AFR/SD. There is growing recognition that ART will become increasingly important in Africa. Accordingly, AFR/SD and SARA will need to develop a strategy based on some particular AFR/SD and SARA niche in order to contribute effectively in this area. SARA will facilitate a process of consultation involving AFR/SD, REDSO and CAs to discuss this issue further.

2. Participate in the Global and Africa Bureau's Implementation Working Group (IWG) consultations and the HIV/AIDS New Indicators Group (HANIG) activities.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Reports of meetings.
- ? Follow-up actions developed based on the recommendations.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

3. Work closely with REDSO/ESA to coordinate activities with African institutions.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Joint REDSO/SARA/CRHCS activity plans developed and implemented, reports shared.
- ? Partners meetings attended, reports developed.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Dr. Stephen Kinoti assisted in the development of the MOU between AFR/SD and REDSO that is guiding the collaboration between REDSO, ECSA, NAP+ and RATN. At SARA, the corresponding persons are HIV/AIDS-Stephen Kinoti; RH-Holley Stewart (SARA Reproductive Health Advisor), and Nutrition-Ellen Piwoz.

In addition, Dr. Kinoti held discussions with Dr. Jeff Ashley and Mary Part on collaboration between SARA and REDSO in the development of the REDSO HIV/AIDS regional strategy while attending the ECSA HIV/AIDS and RH meeting in Mauritius, March 2003.

4. Coordination with partner agencies on HIV/AIDS initiatives in Africa.

Expected Outputs:

? SARA staff involved in meetings & electronic exchanges with partners.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Dr. Stephen Kinoti had electronic and telephone discussions on the SARA involvement in the development of the Access to ART Tool that WHO/Geneva is coordinating. Dr. Kinoti, Oscar Picazo and Dr. Youssef Tawfik reviewed the draft outline and shared sources of information for use in the development of the tool.

Additionally, Mr. Picazo and Dr. Kinoti participated in the regular Human Capacity Development Seminar series organized by the World Bank in Washington DC, and made two presentations on impact of HIV/AIDS on the health and education work force, as described in an earlier item above. They also have continued involvement in the discussions on how to assist African countries in strengthening their HR in the context of HIV/AIDS response.

Also during the quarter, Dr. Kinoti discussed with the Policy Project follow-up activities to support the use of results from the ongoing assessments of impact of HIV/AIDS on the health work force in Malawi and Kenya in the development of human resources in specific countries. The Policy Project committed \$30,000 towards the effort.

Finally, SARA facilitated assistance by Washington-based NAPWA to assist NAP+ in increasing the involvement of PHA through the NAP+ network in Africa. Specific activities involving a communication strategy, network strengthening through training, and resource mobilization strategy were developed.

African Institutions/Capacity Building

1. Technical support for increased African capacity to provide quality care, treatment and support for HIV/AIDS.

Expected Outputs:

- ? African institutions review and update pre-service curricula on issues related to HIV/AIDS (ECSA follow-up).
- ? Training carried out for HIV/AIDS/PMTCT in collaboration with RATN.
- ? Regional training given to HIV/AIDS program managers (RATN).
- ? Ambassadors of Hope trained and carrying out their mission; Ambassadors' toolkit produced.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Dr. Stephen Kinoti reviewed progress with ECSAHCS telephone and electronic communication on HIV/AIDS pre-service curricula revisions. Accordingly, Kenya, Mauritius, Tanzania, Lesotho, and Uganda have initiated the process with institutional advocacy activities and the lecturers have started using the suggested material in their teaching.

Also, SARA held discussions with Dr. Larry Gelmon, Co-Director of RATN on funding a management training course for HIV/AIDS program managers. It was decided that SARA would support monitoring of the trainees. Consequently, RATN will prepare a proposal and share it with SARA.

Deliverables for the finalized subcontract with NAP+ were reviewed and accepted. Discussions on future support to NAP+ was discussed with AFR/SD.

2. Support to the HIV/AIDS Coordinator at the CRHCS.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Salary of the Coordinator provided with REDSO co-funding.
 - ? Work plan carried out.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

As has been the case for over a year, the salary of the Coordinator was provided with REDSO co-funding.

3. Support to HIV/AIDS Policy Advisory Committee.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Functional HAPAC that monitors policies and provides guidance for country programming.
- ? Appropriate policies developed, adopted and monitored.
- ? Best practices identified and information disseminated.
- ? Improved collaboration among SADC, ECSA Secretariat, EAC and emerging networks.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA supported a meeting of HAPAC in Mauritius in March 2003. Progress reports on the National AIDS Commissions (NACs) and AIDS Control Programs (ACPs) joint consultation on roles and functions, including resolutions of the conference of health Ministers, were presented to the National AIDS Control Managers. HAPAC discussed:

- ? Involvement of ECSA in the planned SADC HIV/AIDS summit in Maseru, Lesotho, and preparations for a satellite meeting during the upcoming ICASA meeting.
- ? Assessments of the impact of HIV/AIDS on the health work force in Kenya and Malawi in collaboration with WHO/AFRO are ongoing. Results are expected mid-2003.
- ? Following the pre-service training workshop on HIV/AIDS, the Secretariat supported by SARA is facilitating country roll-out of curricula reviews.
- ? Follow-up on NAC and ACP recommendations to strengthen scale-up in ECSA member states.
- ? SARA, PRB and ECSA co-funding of the position of ICT coordinator at the ECSAHCS.
- ? Funding HIV/AIDS policy monitoring at country level.
- ? Access to treatment, pooled procurement, and informed buying activities were discussed: the ECSAHCS is coordinating an activity involving seventeen countries on behalf of its partners WHO and UNAIDS aimed at increased access to treatment.

4. Strengthen capacity for M&E of HIV/AIDS programs in West Africa.

Expected Outputs:

- ? HIV/AIDS consultants hired by CERPOD.
- ? Dissemination of guidelines and tools.
- ? Training workshop on M&E targeted at NGOs and regional networks carried out.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Discussions are still ongoing on the future of this activity under the "New" CERPOD. CERPOD has submitted a CV of a consultant for SARA to review and consider for the implementation of selected HIV/AIDS activities.

5. Multisectoral HIV/AIDS advocacy and information dissemination through African institutions and networks.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Information briefs and/or advocacy documents produced and disseminated.
- ? Network meetings co-sponsored.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The meeting report from the October USAID-PVO Multisectoral meeting was finalized, produced and disseminated this quarter. Although not a SARA activity, the USAID-PVO Compendium of promising approaches was also in progress during this quarter and will be produced and disseminated next quarter.

6. Support collaborative activities with WAHO on HIV/AIDS and ECOWAS armed forces.

Expected Outputs:

- ? TA provided by SARA staff and consultants.
- ? Advocacy materials prepared and disseminated.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

On March 28, 2003, Dr. Sambe Duale attended a meeting of the Task Force on HIV/AIDS and uniformed services to present the WAHO strategic framework and plan of work for addressing HIV/AIDS among the armed forces of the ECOWAS countries.

7. Participation in the XIIIth ICASA Conference in Nairobi, September 2003.

Expected Outputs:

- ? SARA participation.
- ? Advocacy materials prepared and disseminated.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA staff and the ECSAHCS continued their preparations for a satellite meeting at the XIIIth ICASA Conference in Nairobi, September 2003. ECSA will be producing a draft program during the coming quarter. Meanwhile, Dr. Sambe Duale exchanged e-mails with CORE and a number of other colleagues on how to facilitate presentations of FBOs at the ICASA Conference.

8. Review of pre-service training curricula in the era of HIV/AIDS in West Africa (WAHO).

Expected Outputs:

? Medical, nursing and allied health training curricula reviewed and updated.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Improved Strategies & Models

1. Support improved development and management of human resources in the health sector.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Two countries collect and analyze data and make recommendations for strengthening HCD.
- ? Findings from the country assessments used to advocate for improved HR development and management in the ECSA region.
- ? HCD strategies developed and supported in SSA by a coalition of agencies (e.g., WHO, World Bank, USAID, DfID)
- ? Impact of HIV/AIDS on the health system in ECSA addressed.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Dr. Stephen Kinoti discussed the progress of data collection on impacts of HIV/AIDS on the health work force with the team leaders from the Malawi and Kenya teams and with Dr. Ndyanabangi, the HIV/AIDS Coordinator at the ECSAHCS. The preliminary data is expected to be available during the next quarter and data analysis will be undertaken then. Tentative dates for this are June 23-27, 2003.

Discussions with the World Bank and MSH on a broader national HCD effort in Kenya continued. The Kenya Medical Association, which is coordinating the activity in Kenya, has agreed to reactivate the activity and will discuss future action with SARA and the World Bank.

AFR/SD requested SARA to utilize the comments and suggestions made by AFR/SD reviewers to finalize the paper on the *Impact of HIV/AIDS on the Health Sector: The issue of Human Resources*.

2. Support development and adoption of improved policies and evidence-based implementation guidelines for prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (with special attention to prevention of postnatal HIV transmission).

Expected Outputs:

- ? Global HIV and infant feeding guidelines/recommendations updated based on new evidence.
- ? WHO/AFR/SARA tools finalized, produced and disseminated.
- ? International and bilateral agencies use tools to support training and improved counseling on HIV and infant feeding.
- ? International and bilateral agencies support research (operational, clinical) on HIV and infant feeding / reducing postnatal HIV transmission.
- ? African governments and / or service delivery organizations develop PMTCT guidelines (that are consistent with AFR guidance), with evidence of intent to implement them.
- ? USAID missions allocate resources and develop plans for PMTCT programs or for scaling them up.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Dr. Ellen Piwoz provided technical assistance to WHO/Geneva this quarter for the following activities, which were completed:

- Review of new guidelines on HIV and infant feeding
- Review of operations research proposals on HIV and infant feeding
- Development of a formative research manual on HIV and infant feeding
- Development of a module on infant feeding for the WHO/CDC generic training curricula on MTCT
- Finalization of tools for counseling HIV-infected women about infant feeding options.

The SARA dissemination team has been assisting with the finalization of the tools on counseling HIV-infected women about infant feeding options, in preparation for their field test in South Africa. The field test is presently scheduled for May 2003. SARA consultant, Elizabeth Thomas, has been assisting with this activity. No problems have been encountered except delays obtaining Government of South Africa approvals for the field test.

In addition, Dr. Stephen Kinoti made a presentation entitled "Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV: An Overview" to the National AIDS Managers Expert Committee meeting in Mauritius. This stimulated serious debate on current policies on exclusive breastfeeding and MTCT; replacement feeding, access to ARVs, and issues of water and sanitation. In addition, a small group from among the national representatives, SARA and WHO/AFRO discussed and developed guidelines for integration of PMTCT of HIV and Reproductive Health interventions. These guidelines are being refined for dissemination. Participants were Dr. Ominde Achola, ECSA, Dr. Chisitkhe, WHO/AFRO, Dr. Ndyanabangi, ECSA, Dr. Stephen Kinoti and Holley Stewart.

The paper, "Introducing ART on a large scale: Hope and Caution," written by Dr. Youssef Tawfik, Dr. Kinoti and Chad Blain (Netmark Project), was disseminated widely by electronic means to National AIDS Commissions and AIDS Control Programs at their meetings, through mailing and PDF versions.

3. Support adaptation and initial use of Policy Monitoring tool at regional and country level.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Guideline for Policy Analysis & monitoring developed, produced & disseminated.
- ? Orientation of countries in Policy Monitoring.
- ? Monitoring and evaluation of regional Health Ministers' resolutions on HIV/AIDS undertaken by ECSA Secretariat in at least 5 countries in ECSA.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

This activity is completed. SARA encouraged the ECSAHCS to get progress reports from countries that are undertaking policy monitoring and to prepare a brief on the status.

HIV/AIDS an Nutrition, Prevention of PMTCT

1. Strengthen African Partners' Capacity for (a) Operations and formative research on HIV and infant feeding / MTCT issues; (b) inclusion of nutrition and HIV/AIDS in pre-service curricula.

Expected Outputs:

- ? OR and FR proposals developed and funded with AFR-SARA technical support / inputs.
- ? Findings reported and disseminated.
- ? Pre-service curricula updated on issues related to MTCT.
- ? Modules for inclusion in pre-service curricula finalized and disseminated.
- ? Modules adapted for ECSA region nursing pre-service training institutions.
- ? Follow-up on use of modules in pre-service curricula.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

During this quarter, the modules for inclusion of nutrition and HIV/AIDS in pre-service curricula underwent another review from the authors of the various nutrition and HIV topics that make up the module. Dorcas Lwanga reviewed the topic she developed on nutrition care and support for HIV-positive pregnant and lactating women or adolescent girls. The re-revised topics have been forwarded to an external reviewer for review of the technical content. A final product is expected within the next quarter. This is a joint collaborative activity with RCOHC, LINKAGES, and FANTA, with SARA providing technical assistance.

Ms. Lwanga is also providing technical assistance in another collaborative activity between LINKAGES, FANTA and the ECSAHCS on an activity to develop a pre-service training module on nutrition and HIV/AIDS for nurses and midwives. A concept paper was completed this quarter and submitted to REDSO for review and support.

Dr. Ellen Piwoz reviewed two proposals for WHO on operations research for HIV and infant feeding. The final status/funding decision is as yet uncertain.

Dr. Piwoz also developed a module on infant feeding for the WHO/CDC generic training on PMTCT that is currently under development. This is described elsewhere in this report.

2. Visits to African institutions and networks to increase involvement in nutrition as well as in nutrition and HIV/AIDS issues.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Expert advice / input provided.
- ? Activities for WA identified and discussed.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

3. Global technical leadership for HIV/AIDS and nutrition issues and for PMTCT: (a) intervention research on HIV, infant feeding and nutrition; (b) technical assistance to international partners.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Technical support / expert advice provided to ZVITAMBO, Mala wi and Ghana.
- ? Research results published.
- ? Technical presentations given.
- ? TAG meetings attended.
- ? WHO maternal nutrition and infant feeding technical guidelines for MTCT-plus prepared, reviewed and disseminated.
- ? Technical consultation on nutrition organized by WHO held.
- ? Technical support provided to regional and national institutions in developing national nutrition guidelines for PLWHA and integration into national policy and implementation guidelines (Burkina Faso, Ghana and Nigeria).
- ? National nutrition care and support guidelines drafted with SARA TA (same countries).
- ? Policy guidelines for nutrition care and support developed, reviewed and finalized.
- ? Presentations given, reviews conducted and disseminated for / with other partners as needed.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Dr. Ellen Piwoz traveled to Malawi in January to continue plans for the Malawi Safe Mother Safe Baby research study. During this visit, she finalized plans for the use of a locally produced peanut-spread that is nutritionally fortified for replacement feeding of infants born to HIV-infected mothers after 6 months. She also discussed plans for local production of a nutrition biscuit for HIV-infected mothers.

Dr. Piwoz finished the draft technical guidelines on nutrition care and support for women living with HIV/AIDS that is part of the WHO technical reference guide on care and support of HIV-infected women and their infants this quarter. The technical reference manual is now being edited by WHO. No problems encountered.

Dr. Piwoz provided technical assistance to the WHO Nutrition for Health and Development Department to assist with the organization of a 3-day consultation on Nutrition Requirements for People Living with HIV/AIDS. The consultation will be held in May 2003. No problems encountered.

Dr. Piwoz also prepared a paper that will be published in the journal *Advances in Medicine and Experimental Biology* later this year on HIV and infant feeding: Review of Knowledge, Gaps, and Challenges for the Future. This paper was co-authored by Jay Ross, LINKAGES, and Jean Humphrey, ZVITAMBO.

The ECSAHCS took the lead in developing and finalizing the policy guidelines for nutrition care and support with support from WHO/AFRO. A finalized copy of the guidelines was submitted by ECSAHCS at the end of this quarter. Kinday Samba worked with WHO/AFRO in the last quarter to develop a scope of work for collaboration between WHO/AFRO and SARA to support development of national nutrition guidelines for PLWHA similar to the process used in the ECSA region. Work in this area has, however, been delayed as the

memorandum of understanding for both parties has not been signed and also because the ECSAHCS had had a delay in finalizing the policy guidelines. The guidelines have been completed and forwarded to WHO/AFRO and it is hoped that now the memorandum will be signed and work will begin in the next quarter.

4. Develop and test tools for improved programming: (a) HIV and infant feeding; (b) nutrition care and support.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Counseling tools for HIV and infant feeding pre-tested and finalized with WHO.
- ? Materials produced and disseminated.
- ? Tools for formative research on HIV / infant feeding issues drafted, reviewed, finalized and disseminated with WHO.
- ? Tool kit developed for counseling on nutrition care and support for PLWHA in the ECSA sub-region.
- ? One regional workshop held to review and finalize draft of the counseling tool kit.
- ? Handbook finalized on development of national nutrition care and support guidelines for PLWHA.
- ? Number of national guidelines on development of national nutrition care and support guidelines for PLWHA and policy guidelines for integration of national nutrition care and support into national policy produced with SARA TA in ESA and West Africa sub-regions increased.
- ? Policy guidelines for NCS developed, reviewed, finalized in ESA sub-region.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

As noted above, the tools for counseling on HIV and infant feeding and for formative research on HIV and infant feeding were finalized this quarter and submitted to WHO. SARA is now preparing the field test of the counseling tools, and awaiting further feedback from WHO on the formative research manual.

The handbook on developing national nutrition care and support guidelines for PLWHA to which SARA provided technical assistance to the RCQHC, was finalized and produced by RCQHC in this quarter.

Dorcas Lwanga completed and submitted the concept paper for developing a nutrition and HIV/AIDS tool kit on counseling for nutrition care and support for PLWHA in the ECSA sub-region. The concept paper was submitted to REDSO for review and support of this activity. Ms. Lwanga's work on this activity is being supported by LINKAGES/GHAI in collaboration with RCQHC and FANTA. Work should begin next quarter once approval from REDSO is obtained.

Multisectoral Initiatives

1. ECSAIDS Initiative: Helping Governments of ECSA region access and use funds to support HIV/AIDS & related health programs.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Joint consultations held with partners & at country level.
- ? Strategy document developed.
- ? Activities & capacity to implement these activities developed.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Dr. Suzanne Prysor-Jones, Dr. Stephen Kinoti, and Oscar Picazo participated in a teleconference with the ECSAHCS on how their proposal can be improved and "marketed better" for possible GFATM and Gates Foundation funding. Concept briefs were prepared and shared with AFR/SD. Further discussions will be undertaken with REDSO/ESA and CA partners. These discussions will also involve NACs and ACPs in selected countries.

2. USAID/AFR strategy for private sector involvement in HIV/AIDS activities in Africa.

Expected Outputs:

- ? SOW for a PVO work & African businesses.
- ? Help manage the purchase order or sub-contract that results.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Renuka Bery, Dr. Stephen Kinoti, Antonia Wolff and Dr. Suzanne Prysor-Jones assisted consultant Percy Wilson in preparing a short paper on experiences and lessons learned in the development of a Private Public Partnership (PPP) between US and Nigerian businesses in responding to the HIV/AIDS crisis. SARA also assisted in the preparation of a presentation by Mr. Wilson to the AGOA conference on the role of PPP in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

Monitoring of HIV/AIDS Programs

1. Support initial country monitoring of policies related to HIV/AIDS.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Policy monitoring undertaken
- ? Status reports produced and disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Work coordinated by Olive Munjanja of the ECSAHCS to monitor policies, including those on HIV/AIDS in ECSA member states with support from SARA, has continued. The work is at different stages in Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia, Uganda, and Zimbabwe. Results are expected during the coming quarter.

Health Sector Reform and Health Care Financing Support to SO 21

1. Provide technical support to RATN on aspects related to human resource management, financing and sustainability.

Expected Outputs:

- ? SOW developed by the CRHCS
- ? Adaptation of the SOW by 2 selected countries
- ? Assessments undertaken in 2 countries & results disseminated & advocacy plans developed

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Dr. Suzanne Prysor-Jones and Oscar Picazo met with Dr. Larry Gelman, Co-Director of RATN, to discuss possible assistance that SARA can provide in the areas of HR, financing, and monitoring and evaluation.

2. Provide technical support to ECSA/CRHCS and member-countries on how they can access the Global fund for AIDS, TB and Malaria.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Technical assistance provided
- ? Meetings held with stakeholders

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Dr. Suzanne Prysor-Jones, Dr. Stephen Kinoti, and Oscar Picazo held a teleconference with the ECSAHCS on the status of their proposal to the Global Fund (GF), and how it can be improved to meet GF and Gates Foundation requirements.

Based on the meeting with SARA staff, AFR/SD, and the Management and Leadership Project, Oscar Picazo developed a brief scope of work on possible work that M&L can do to improve GF and other disbursements in East and Southern African countries.

3. Work with AFR/SD and G Bureaus on drafting paper on the impact of HIV/AIDS on labor force and employment for the AGOA conference.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Information and guidance provided to consultant
- ? Paper reviewed, completed and presented

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Oscar Picazo met and exchanged e-mails with Ishrat Husain in January 2003. Based on the agreed assignments, Mr. Picazo provided the consultant with additional data on impact of HIV/AIDS on education and business sectors in Africa.

Dissemination & Advocacy Support to SO 21

1. Reproduce and disseminate Mali video on women living with AIDS to combat stigma in West Africa.

Expected Outputs:

? Video duplicated and disseminated according to strategy

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA researched the cost and got bids from video duplicators. This activity will be finalized next quarter.

2. Produce and disseminate key documents.

Expected Outputs:

? Documents in Comments column produced and disseminated

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The HIV/AIDS A Humanitarian and Development Crisis: Addressing the Challenges for PVOs and NGOs in Africa conference report was finalized, produced, and disseminated widely this quarter. It is now complete.

USAID is still developing the OVC guidelines and SARA has not worked on them this quarter. However, Peter McDermott of AFR/SD has mentioned other documents that may become priorities. If SARA is tasked to write and produce them, these will be added to this list in the next two quarters.

SO 22: Improved Policies, Strategies and Programs for Preventing, Mitigating and

Transition out of Crises

Technical Area: Epidemic Preparedness

Technical support to AFR/SD on Epidemic Preparedness and Response, and Transition Initiatives.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Review meetings held
- ? TA provided for the development and production of the RP

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered,

proposed solutions:

See SO 19, Infectious Diseases, #2.

SO 24: Polio

Technical Area: Polio

1. Assist AFR/SD in the implementation of their SO 24 portfolio.

Expected Outputs:

? Assistance provided as needed.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Dr. Sambe Duale participated in a small working group meeting at USAID to discuss how to ensure safety of injections in Africa building on the EPI efforts.

Additionally, Antonia Wolff participated in the USAID Polio Partners meeting.

2. Continue assisting WHO/AFRO on dissemination and advocacy.

Expected Outputs:

? TBD

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Renuka Bery and Antonia Wolff had a phone conversation with Grace Kagondu at AFRO on the types of people that would best suit the dissemination position. SARA also sent Ms. Kagondu some interview questions that might help her in interviewing prospective candidates.

SO: Cross-cutting

Technical Area: Various areas – Monitoring and Evaluation Activities

1. Assist AFR/SD/HRD SO 19, 20 and 21 with monitoring & evaluation as required.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Expert advice provided.
- ? M&E system functioning.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA has contracted the services of Martita Marx as a consultant to coordinate a SARA self-assessment. Dr. Suzanne Prysor-Jones and Dr. Sambe Duale brought the consultant to meet with AFR/SD to review objectives, methodology and the expected outcomes of the exercise. The assessment has started and will continue until the end of May 2003.

2. Finalize the Data Quality Assessment of AFR/SD Indicators for SO 19, 20, 21 and 24.

Expected Outputs:

? Data Quality Assessment documents finalized, produced and disseminated.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

This activity was completed this period. SARA delivered the final report to AFR/SD.

3. Consultative meeting on issues and lessons learned in building public health capacity in West and Central Africa.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Meeting organized.
- ? Issues and lessons learned paper produced and disseminated.
- ? Presentation done at the AfriHealth Regional Conference.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

4. Support for the strategic planning and institutional development of WAHO.

Expected Outputs:

? TA provided to WAHO.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

See Reproductive Health section on Strategy for Repositioning Family Planning and Addressing Maternal and Neonatal Mortality in West Africa, above.

5. Technical analysis and expert support for the USAID West Africa Regional Program (WARP).

Expected Outputs:

? TA provided to WARP.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA has continued to communicate with WARP, AFR/SD and CERPOD on the proposed evaluation and repositioning of CERPOD. SARA has been asked to hire two consultants identified by CERPOD to join Dr. Suzanne Prysor-Jones and Dr. Sambe Duale to conduct the evaluation. The exercise is now planned for May 2003.

6. Dissemination of CERPOD self-evaluation guide (French and English).

Expected Outputs:

? Manual produced, disseminated and used.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Dissemination has continued in French. CERPOD provided JSI /MALI with 15 of their copies in order for JSI to do an initial disbursement to community level health officers in Mali. After an enthusiastic response, a health team from JSI distributed over 100 more copies throughout several regions in Mali. We have requested a report in terms of reactions to the guide, however it is presently too early to see how they are being used. SARA provided JSI with a questionnaire to assess its use, and will be following up with them in six months time. The English was formatted this quarter and will be printed and disseminated next quarter.

7. Follow-up with CORE on education and health linkages.

Expected Outputs:

? Follow-up done.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

This activity will be dropped.

8. Technical support for the management and maintenance of the CERTI Website.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Moderation & quality assurance of materials posted on website.
- ? Site maintained

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this period.

SO: Cross-cutting

Technical Area: Dissemination and advocacy

Result ia: Capacity to Advocate

1. Provide the Advocacy Guide to groups to use it (African institutions, CAs, etc.) on request.

Expected Outputs:

? Advocacy Guide provided to selected groups.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA filled 1 request (UNICEF) for 45 English copies.

2. Assess the advocacy training to see whether & how participants have us ed the ir skills.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Follow-up completed.
- ? Recommendations made for future.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

Result ib: Capacity to Disseminate Information

3. Assist CRHCS in strengthening its info communication activities by developing strategy and hiring an appropriate staff person.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Communication strategy developed.
- ? Staff person recruited and hired.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

4. Work with Namibian web competition team to document experience and explore how to replicate it in other ECSA countries.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Namibia experience documented.
- ? Collaboration with other regional organizations and donors to replicate experience in one other country.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

5. Work with African institutions to build capacity in dissemination and repackaging information.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Workshops with partners.
- ? Information dissemination.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Antonia Wolff was scheduled to make a presentation at the WHO meeting in Geneva in March, but this was cancelled due to the SARS epidemic and the impending war on Iraq.

Also, see Polio, item #2.

6. Assist African institutions in repackaging information on an as needed basis.

Expected Outputs:

? Information repackaged and appropriately disseminated.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Antonia Wolff began working with the consultants on the IDSR country reports. In addition, Ms. Wolff sent policy brief guidelines to the IDSR team to help facilitate uniform country briefs. The country reports will be finalized, edited and disseminated at the IDSR Task Force meeting in Bamako, in May 2003. Although it was planned that the IDSR country briefs would also be distributed at this meeting, the consultants were not able to draft up the briefs in time for the May meeting; however, SARA plans to finalize and produce the country briefing packets in the next quarter, and have them ready for the Global Consultation on IDSR slated for September 2003.

SARA also worked with Ellen Piwoz to package a set of tools for WHO on HIV and Infant Feeding Counseling. These will be tested next quarter.

7. Collaborate with other USAID Projects.

Expected Outputs:

? Dissemination of priority issues improved for selected projects.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Renuka Bery participated in the Health Information and Publications Network (HIPNET) meeting and presented the publications currently in progress. Ms. Bery also met with the PROFILES Coordinator to discuss how to package the PROFILES evaluation.

8. Develop series of Dissemination Briefs to assist projects & African institutions in developing & carrying out a dissemination strategy.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Dissemination briefs developed
- ? Dissemination strategy developed & implemented

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Renuka Bery has begun to draft these briefs. This will be an ongoing process over the next couple of quarters.

Result ic: Capacity to Communicate Electronically

9. Link selected African institution personnel to e-communication opportunities through CRHCS.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Selected personnel linked to opportunities
 - ? Evaluate executive training program.
 - ? Links made between PRB and CRHCS for electronic networking activity.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

SARA has linked PRB and ECSAHCS to assist in improving ECSAHCS' communication capabilities. As both ECSA and PRB are Gates grantees, this may result in some activity.

Result iia: Materials Development and Production

10. Design and package information in appropriate formats (books, syntheses, executive summaries, e-notes, policy briefs/brochures, tools).

Expected Outputs:

? Selected information designed and packaged.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Partnerships in Education is a series of briefs based on the research SARA conducted on NGOs and Education. This was produced and disseminated this quarter.

An interactive CD-ROM of all the reproductive health materials in SO 20 produced over the past 5 years was developed, produced, and disseminated.

The malaria and pregnancy brochure is being updated and revised.

11. Dissemination of key AFR/SD-SARA cross-cutting products as requested.

Expected Outputs:

? Products disseminated.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Here are the key pubs that we disseminated during the quarter:

Reproductive Health

834 copies (529 English + 305 French for 12 requests) were disseminated to the following audiences: 500 copies to **Conference/Workshops in Africa** + 25 **USAID/W** + 3 **Donors CAs -Afr.** + 1 **Donor Non-Afr.** (Eng) and 300 copies

to conference/workshops in Africa + 5 copies to USAID/W (Fr).

HIV/AIDS & Nutrition

504 copies (290 English + 214 French for 35 requests) were disseminated for the following audiences: 143 copies to **African Organizations** + 3 copies to **Donors/CAs-Afr.** + 1 copy **Un./Train Schools** + 143 copies to **Donors/CAs-Non-Afr.** (Eng) and 200 copies to **African Organizations** + 10 copies to **USAID/W** + 3 copies to **Donors/CAs-Afr.** + 1 copy to **Donor/CAs-Non-Afr.**(Fr).

Prevention of MTCT of HIV in Africa

156 copies (152 English + 4 French for 31 requests) were disseminated to the following audiences: 92 copies to **African Orgs.** + 2 copies to **Donors/CAs -Afr.** + 1 copy to **Other** + 57 copies to **Donors/CAs -Non-Afr.** (Eng) and 3 copies to **Donors/CAs -Non-Afr.** + 1 copy to **Other**.

Advocacy

45 English copies for 1 request were disseminated to **UNICEF**.

Internet

83 English copies were disseminated to the following audiences: 80 copies to **Afr. Orgs**. + 2 copies to **Donors/CAs-Non-Afr.** + 1 copy to **Other**.

Best Practices

104 copies (21 English + 83 French for 4 requests) were disseminated to the following audience: 20 copies to **Afr. Orgs**. + 1 copy to **Donors/CAs-Afr.** (Eng) and 80 copies to **Conference/Workshops in Africa** + 3 **Donors/CAs-Afr.** (Fr).

Utilizing Private Practitioners in Child Survival

62 copies (34 English + 28 French for 8 requests) were disseminated to the following audience: 20 copies to **Conference/Workshop in Africa** + 13 copies to **Donors/CAs-Afr.** + 1 copy to **Donors/CAs-Non-Afr.** (Eng) and 20 copies to **Conference/Workshop in Africa** + 8 copies to **Donors/CAs-Non-Afr.** (Fr).

Note that during that period, 3041 documents (2331 requested + 710 copies unsolicited) were disseminated - 224 requests were filled for 2331 documents (hard copies) which account for 77% of the total documents sent.

12. Assessments of use of AFR/SD/HRD-SARA products (2 documents/year)

- Research Guide and AIDS Briefs
- Possibly malaria brochure and press kits.

Expected Outputs:

? Use of documents assessed & presentation given.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

Result iib: Dissemination Channels

13. Mail documents to targeted mailing list.

Expected Outputs:

? Documents mailed.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

See item #11 above.

14. Explore new opportunities to disseminate more information electronically, through e-mail, Internet, etc., especially through e-mail groups.

Expected Outputs:

- Increased number of documents on Internet.
- Increased number of hits.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Several documents were sent via email. All SARA documents are available on the web site in PDF format and through the DEC. In addition, SARA learned about a new document database that is being run by PRB called INFOSHARE. SARA intends to contribute to this database when it is ready to receive information.

15. SARA, AFR and USAID Website maintenance + publications updates.

Expected Outputs:

- ? Website reviewed and updated on periodic basis.
- ? Publications list moved to USAID site.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

Updates have been made as needed. Often, updates are made as PDF versions of publications are made available via the DEC for downloading or purchase. It is possible that one of the lists on the SARA site will need to be removed to eliminate confusion, as both lists contain much of the same information. In essence, the lists would be consolidated, which would, in turn, further optimize the use of the SARA site.

16. Promote information through various listservs (AFRONETS, ReproHlth, WB, AHILANet).

Expected Outputs:

? Information promoted as needed.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

17. Develop and send via e-mail quarterly announcement of AFR/SD publications/products.

Expected Outputs:

? Broadcast e-mail sent quarterly.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The email announcement was sent out this quarter.

18. Explore interactive CD-ROM development. Assess whether SARA should design an interactive CD-ROM and develop it, if appropriate.

Expected Outputs:

? New activities of this nature identified, including whether SARA should do CD-ROM.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

The interactive RH CD-ROM was developed, produced, and disseminated this quarter. The CD was a large compilation of information and publications, categorically organized by either date or alphabetically. The CD contained a wealth of knowledge that could be accessed on virtually any computer's CD-ROM.

19. Assess use of CD-ROMS in Africa.

Expected Outputs:

? Reports from surveys conducted at various forums.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

No activity this quarter.

20. Analyze tracking information on major SARA publications.

Expected Outputs:

? Information analyzed.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

This is available on an as-needed basis.

Result 3: Dissemination and Advocacy Activities Incorporated into AFR/SD SOs

21. Provide TA to all AFR/SD/HRD teams to ensure that RPs have dissemination & advocacy built into activities.

Expected Outputs:

? TA given & dissemination & advocacy activities reviewed.

Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:

This activity is ongoing. Either Renuka Bery or Antonia Wolff is a member of every core group.